

DECEMBER No.43

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12

DOLL MAN



THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MITE

The **THING**
THAT KILLS

10¢





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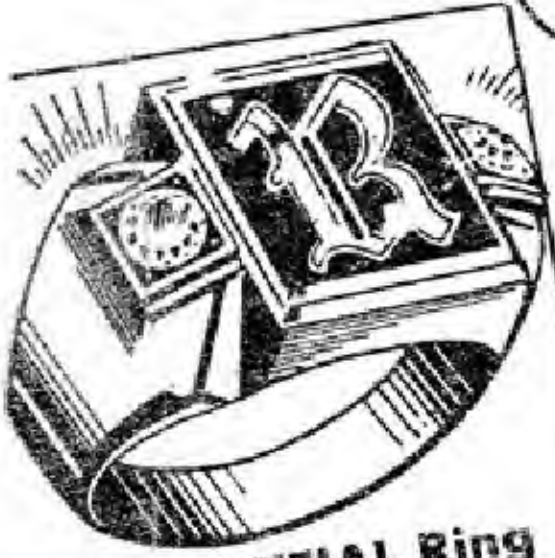
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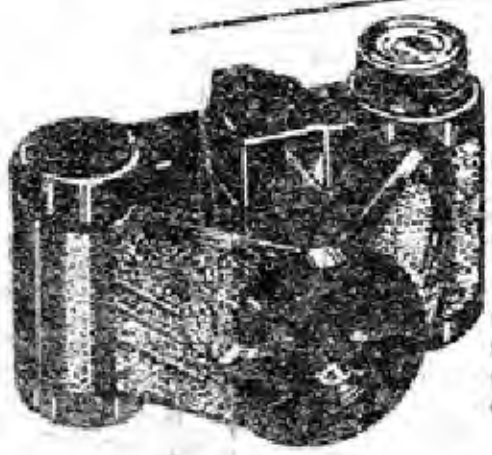


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BIG! HEAVY

A wonderful ring for that boy in service. Extra heavy SOLID STERLING SILVER! Big simulated RUBY in center. Super special! Deluxe quality. Lifetime value! Order by No. 399. Only **395**



Tiny Midget Camera TAKES SECRET PICTURES

- Fits in palm of hand
- Only 2 x 3 inches
- Easy to use!
- Takes dandy pictures!

139

TINY MIDGET CAMERA — only 2 x 3 inches! Easily concealed in palm of your hand! NOW! Take SECRET pictures without being seen! Get dandy jumbo pictures, size 2 x 3 inches, also Kodak COLOR pictures and beautiful enlargements. Lightweight but sturdy. Carry with you always! Take pictures at sports events, school affairs, accidents, your friends and family! Loads of fun. EASY! Just aim and shoot! Nothing complicated! GUARANTEED to satisfy or full price back! Order by No. 32. Price only **139**

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SALE

Swiss

WATCH FOR MEN AND BOYS

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#231

Here's your big chance to enjoy a dandy, good looking IMPORTED SWISS WATCH at a BARGAIN PRICE! Every watch REGULARLY INSPECTED before shipment and accurate. Has many quality features found in watches selling for much more. One of America's BIG VALUES! Satisfaction GUARANTEED or full price back if not thrilled in 10 days. You risk nothing — so don't miss this terrific bargain — **495** only

New!

ADT SIMULATION OF

\$850 BOTH YOURS — **\$500**

NEW and so beautiful, too! 12 selected Pseudo DIAMONDS imported from Europe set in an enchanting Engagement & Wedding Ring Set... fashionable PLATINUM color effect, perfectly matched. Special SALE price for both... **500** — including all tax & mailing costs. NO EXTRAS! Yet they look like \$850.00 and more! They gleam with a 1000 rays of light. Made with SOLID PRECIOUS METAL! Enjoy a LIFETIME! Order by No. 404. Bargain price only **500**

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AMAZING bargain! Chip* DIAMOND locket in rich gold color effect with 16 inch chain. Holds 2 pictures of loved ones. Lifetime value! Order by No. 507. No, it's not \$10.00. Our price **295**



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SAVE MORE — get more — by sendin' cash or money order with this coupon! We pay ALL fees and you get 2 GIFTS instead of only one!		

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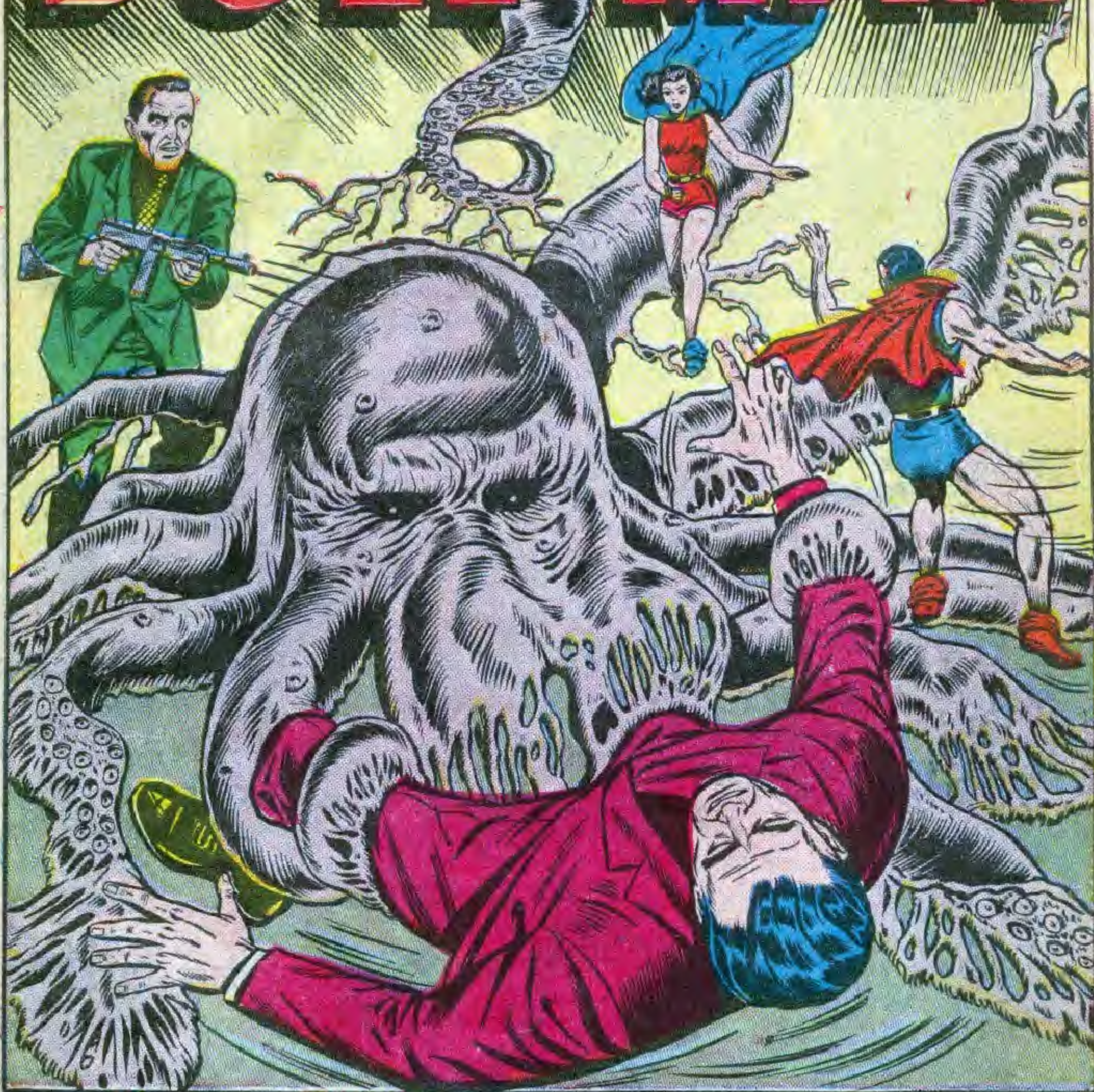
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Your Birthmonth Color Stone 10 Glazing Pseudo DIAMONDS Set all around Do tell us your Month of Birth!

191

No. 340

DOLL MAN



WHAT WAS THE **THING**?

WHAT KIND OF HIDEOUS LIFE ANIMATED THIS MURDEROUS CREATURE WHOSE LIKE HAD NEVER BEEN SEEN ON EARTH BEFORE?

ONLY A GREAT SCIENTIST KNEW THE ANSWER, AND HE COULD NOT TELL! NOR COULD MUSK, THE GANG LEADER, WHO THOUGHT HE COULD USE THE THING'S POWER TO HELP HIM BUILD A CRIMINAL EMPIRE!

DOLL MAN AND DOLL GIRL, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MITEs, HURTLE INTO INCREDIBLE DANGER WHEN THEY SEEK TO DESTROY

THE *THING* THAT KILLED!

DARREL DANE AND MARTHA ROBERTS ARE WITNESSES TO THE MOST AMBITIOUS EXPERIMENT OF THE GREAT SCIENTIST, JOHANN DURFO!

I HAVE SUCCEEDED IN CREATING A SMALL PIECE OF TRUE PROTOPLASM! YOU SEE FLOATING BEFORE YOUR EYES THE VERY STUFF OF LIFE!

AMAZING!



BUT YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR THIS TIME! SOME SECRETS ARE NOT MEANT FOR MEN TO KNOW!

I AM A SCIENTIST, DARREL! IT IS OUR JOB TO PUSH FORWARD THE FRONTIERS OF KNOWLEDGE!



THINK OF THE LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES OF MY DISCOVERY! IF MAN CAN CREATE LIVING PROTOPLASM, HE CAN CREATE LIFE ITSELF! WE CAN REPLACE OUTWORN HUMAN TISSUE WITH NEW MATERIALS, MADE IN A SCIENTIST'S LABORATORY!

IT'S A WONDERFUL VISION! BUT THERE ARE SO MANY UNFORESEEABLE DANGERS!

NONSENSE, MY DEAR! AS SOON AS I CAN PERFECT A MEANS OF NOURISHING THE PROTOPLASM, I SHALL ANNOUNCE IT TO THE WORLD!

AND SOON AFTERWARDS..



IN THE LUXURIOUS HOME OF MUSK, PLUNDERWORLD CHIEFTAIN ---

YOU DIDN'T JUST INVITE US HERE FOR A GAME OF BILLIARDS, MUSK! WHAT'S UP?

HAVEN'T YOU BOYS BEEN READING THE NEWSPAPERS? JOHANN DURFO HAS JUST MADE ONE OF THE BIGGEST DISCOVERIES IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICAL SCIENCE!



WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH US?

USE YOUR IMAGINATION! FURS AND JEWELRY AREN'T THE ONLY KINDS OF VALUABLE LOOT! THERE ARE SOME THINGS EVEN MORE VALUABLE THAN GOLD!



SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES, FOR INSTANCE? IMAGINE WHAT PEOPLE WOULD PAY FOR JOHANN DURFO'S FORMULA FOR CREATING PROTOPLASM!

HUH? IT WOULDN'T WORK, *MUSK*! DURFO COULD ALWAYS GIVE HIS FORMULA ... FOR FREE!



DURFO COULDN'T .. IF HE WAS DEAD! WITH JOHANN DURFO OUT OF THE WAY, WE'D BECOME *EXCLUSIVE OWNERS* OF THE MOST VALUABLE SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY IN YEARS!



SOME TIME LATER, AS DARREL DANE AND MARTHA ROBERTS ARE WORKING IN THEIR LABORATORY...

WHO'S THIS?... OH, JOHANN DURFO! HOW'S YOUR EXPERIMENT COMING ALONG?



WHAT'S THAT?... OH, I SEE! YES, WE'LL BE OVER RIGHT AWAY, JOHANN!

WHAT'S WRONG?



I'VE NEVER HEARD ANYONE SOUND SO ALARMED AS JOHANN DURFO DID JUST NOW! SOMETHING'S GONE WRONG WITH HIS EXPERIMENT!

WE'D BETTER CONCENTRATE OUR WILL POWER, DARREL!



BY CONCENTRATING THEIR WILL POWER, DARREL DANE AND MARTHA ROBERTS, HIS FIANCEE, CAN TELESCOPE THEIR BODIES DOWN INTO THE MINIATURE MARVELS, DOLL MAN AND DOLL GIRL!



SECONDS LATER, THE TINY DOLL-PLANE WHIZZES THEM AWAY!

JOHANN DURFO SOUNDED REALLY FRIGHTENED! I WONDER WHAT'S HAPPENED?



MEANWHILE...



I CAN WAIT NO LONGER! DARREL DANE WAS RIGHT! THIS TIME I HAVE GONE TOO FAR!



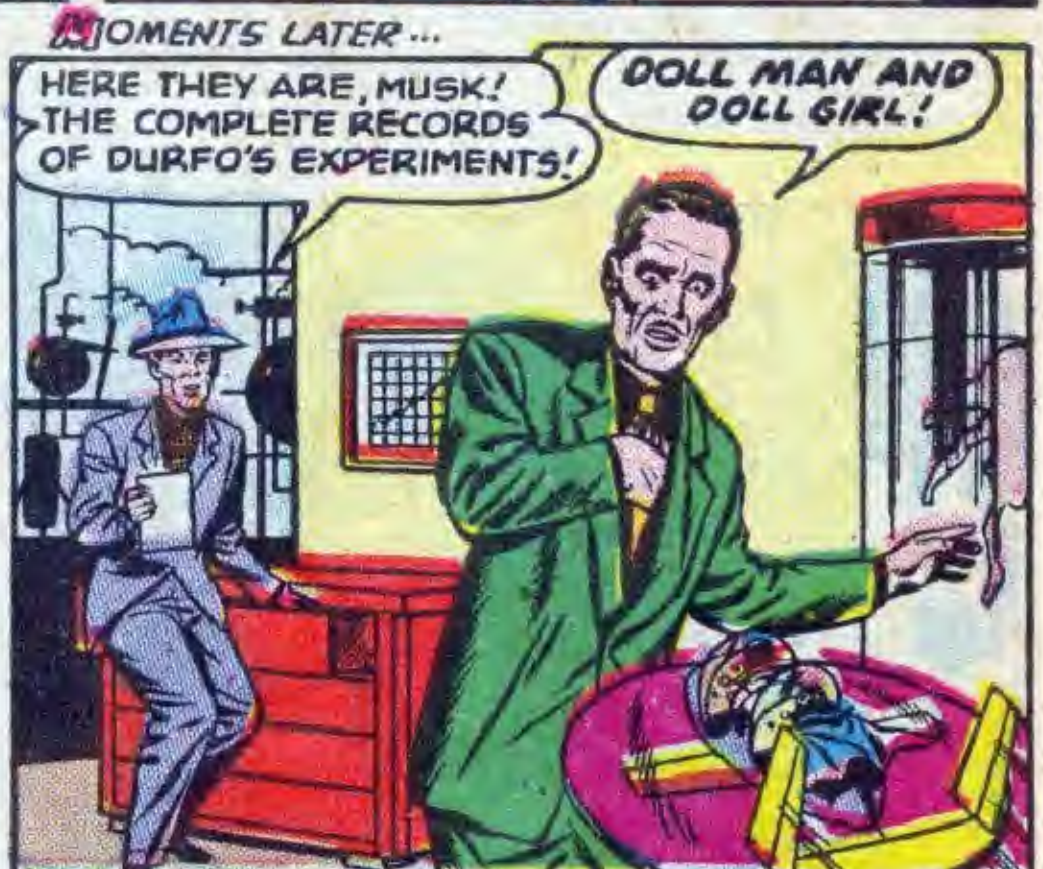
I'LL DESTROY MY EXPERIMENT BEFORE... .. AHHH!

BANG



JOHANN DURFO IS DEAD, BOSS!

AND WE'VE GOT THE PRODUCT OF HIS EXPERIMENT! BRRR! I COULD SWEAR THIS MASS OF PROTOPLASM WAS... ALIVE!



MOMENTS LATER...

HERE THEY ARE, MUSK! THE COMPLETE RECORDS OF DURFO'S EXPERIMENTS!

DOLL MAN AND DOLL GIRL!



ALL OUT FOR A CRASH LANDING!

KRUNK!

OH!!



THESE THUGS MURDERED A GREAT SCIENTIST!

WHAP!



THIS IS JUST A DOWN PAYMENT ON THE DEBT THEY OWE TO SOCIETY!

KRAK!

YUHH!



DAZED BY THE SHOCK OF THE EXPLOSION, DOLL MAN AND DOLL GIRL FINALLY SHAKE OFF ITS EFFECTS!



DOLL MAN

GOOD HEAVENS! ACCORDING TO THESE RECORDS, THE ARTIFICIAL PROTOPLASM WAS GROWING AT AN ABNORMAL RATE!

AND JOHANN DURFO FOUND NO WAY TO CONTROL THE GROWTH! WHEN HE TRIED CUTTING OFF ITS FOOD, THE PROTOPLASM BROKE LOOSE AND DEVoured SEVERAL GIULINEA PIGS IN THE LABORATORY!



DURFO WAS CONVINCED THE PROTOPLASM WAS DEVELOPING INTO A CREATURE THAT COULD THINK FOR ITSELF, AND SO DISCOVER NEW WAYS OF SATISFYING ITS ABNORMAL APPETITE!

OH, DOLL MAN, IT'S FRIGHTENING



QUICKLY REPAIRING THE DOLL PLANE ...

IF MUSK HAS THAT THING, HE DOESN'T KNOW THE DANGER HE'S IN!

WE'VE GOT TO FIND THAT HUNK OF GROWING PROTOPLASM, AND DESTROY IT!



THE PROTOPLASM REQUIRES A SPECIAL TYPE OF NOURISHMENT! WHENEVER MUSK TRIES TO FEED IT, WE'LL BE ABLE TO TRACE HIM VIA THE ORDER HE PLACES!

I--I HOPE SO!



THE NEXT DAY, AS MUSK RETURNS TO HIS LAVISH APARTMENT ...

I HAD A HARD TIME COLLECTING THE KIND OF STUFF THIS THING FEEDS ON! HARDLY ANY STORES IN THE CITY CARRY IT! ... SAY!



IT'S GONE! H-HOW DID IT LIFT THE LID OF THE BASIN AND GET OUT? THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! SOMEBODY MUST HAVE STOLEN...



EEEEAAA!







AFTER A MINUTE, THE MOVEMENT OF THE THING BECAME SLUGGISH, AND ITS TENTACLES RELEASE THEIR VICTIM!





LATER...
DOLL MAN!
THANK GOODNESS
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

MUSK'S SHOT
ONLY GRAZED
ME! BUT THE
CONCUSSION
KNOCKED ME
OUT!



THAT REMINDS
ME! WHERE
IS MUSK?

HE LEFT A FEW
MINUTES AGO--
AFTER BINDING
US LIKE THIS!..
UH-OH! THE THING
IS STARTING TO
WAKE UP!



I GUESS THIS IS
WHY MUSK LEFT
US HERE! HE
FIGURED THE
THING WOULD
FINISH US OFF,
WITHOUT LEAV-
ING ANY EV-
IDENCE OF
WHAT
HAPPENED!

I'M
AFRAID
HE
WAS
RIGHT!
I CAN'T
BREAK
THESE
BONDS!

**CLOSER
AND
CLOSER
CREEP
THE
SLIMY
TENTACLES
OF
DOOM!
SUDDENLY
DOLL
MAN
PUSHES
HIMSELF
DIRECTLY
INTO
THEIR
GRASP!**



TRY TO GET
AWAY, DOLL
MAN! DON'T
GIVE UP!

NO! WE'VE ONLY
GOT ONE
CHANCE,
DOLL GIRL!



THE THING TRIES TO
DEVOUR ANYTHING IT
CAPTURES! T-THERE'S
A POSSIBILITY IT WILL
EAT THROUGH MY
BONDS FIRST!



**AFTER AGONIZING
MOMENTS OF HORROR--**

I WAS RIGHT! THE BONDS
ARE WEAK ENOUGH
SO I CAN
SNAP
THEM!



WHEW! IT TOOK ALL MY STRENGTH
TO BREAK FREE OF THOSE
TENTACLES!

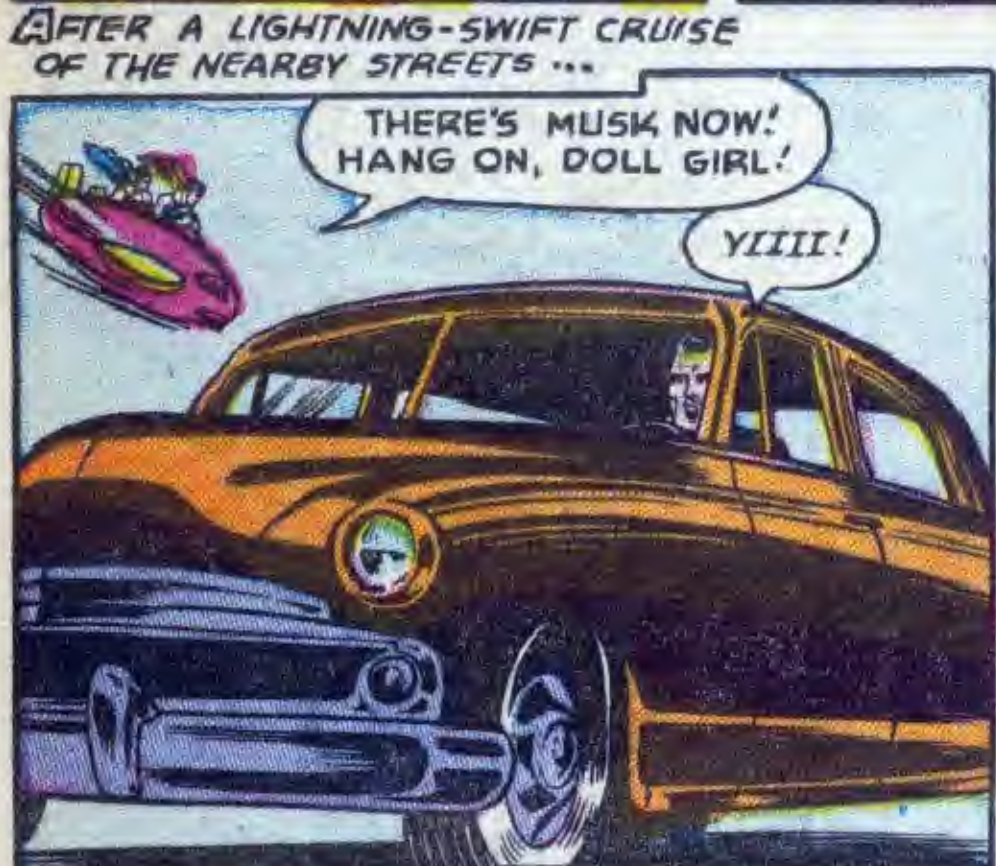
PLOCK!



QUICKLY FREEING DOLL GIRL..

THE THING'S
ANGRY! WE'D
BETTER GET
MOVING!

NOT YET! I'LL MAKE
A LAST TRY AT
DESTROYING THAT
MONSTER -- WITH
A BOTTLE OF
CLEANING FLUID
AND A MATCH!



SPECIAL...

INTRODUCTORY OFFER

to Readers of DOLL MAN



**ALL-IN-ONE
CIGARETTE
LIGHTER and
FULL-PACK CASE**
*Personalized with
Your Name*

**FOR MEN
AND WOMEN**

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*Your Name
Engraved in
23 Karat Gold
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**NEW!
IMPROVED!**

All-in-One Cigarette Lighter and Full-Pack Case gives you a cigarette and a light—BOTH at the same time! Smart, streamlined and modern. This wonderful convenience is compact... fits easily in your pocket or purse. No more tobacco crumbs. No more bent or damp cigarettes. Insures lasting freshness. Deep well lighter holds an amazingly large supply of fluid. Built for lifetime service of beautiful mottled plastic. Only lighter case with hinged lid. Opens with a snap of your finger. Your name engraved on case in 23 Karat gold letters. An ideal gift for men or women. Order Now.

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Just mail name and address for trial inspection and approval. On arrival deposit \$1.98 plus 48c C.O.D. postage. Use 10 days. If not delighted return for refund of purchase price. (Send \$1.98 with order. We pay postage.)

EXTRA FOR PROMPT ACTION... If you order now, we will engrave any name in 23 Karat gold without extra cost. Order now for yourself or as a gift for someone else.

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MAY I PLEASE HAVE
A CIGARETTE, JOHN?

SURE —
THEY'RE HERE
SOMEPLACE



WHY —
THEY'RE ALL
BENT!

GOSH,
NOW I
CAN'T
FIND A
MATCH!



WHAT A BEAUTIFUL
CASE AND LIGHTER!

MAY I
HELP?

HAVE A
CIGARETTE
AND
A LIGHT



HEY! WHERE CAN I GET
A COMBINATION CASE
AND LIGHTER LIKE THAT?

I'LL GET ONE,
TOO. WHAT
A MAN!

JUST SEND
A COUPON
TO H&S
SALES IN
CHICAGO!

**CLIP
AND MAIL
COUPON
NOW**

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Please rush combination cigarette case and lighter. I will pay postman only \$1.98 plus 48c C.O.D. postage on arrival. I may return in 10 days for refund of purchase price if not delighted. (Send \$1.98 with order. H. & S. Sales Co. pays postage.)

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ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

NAME TO BE ENGRAVED _____

(Print Name)

TORCHY



BUT ALL I WANT YOU TO DO IS TAKE IT OUT AND GET IT REPAIRED! MY WIFE'S BEEN MEANING TO DO IT HERSELF BUT I WANT TO SURPRISE HER!



THEN SHE DOESN'T KNOW ABOUT IT! IT'S A SECRET!

THAT'S RIGHT, MISS TODD! AND I KNOW I CAN TRUST YOU NOT TO BREATHE A WORD ABOUT IT TO ANYONE!



YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, MR. TRAVESTY! I'M ON MY WAY!

HERE'S THE ADDRESS! ASK THEM TO GET IT DONE AS QUICKLY AS THEY CAN!



MR. TRAVESTY DIDN'T SAY I COULDN'T TRY IT ON! I GUESS THERE WOULDN'T BE ANY HARM IN IT!



HMM! NOT BAD!

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!



I HAVE THE MOST WONDERFUL HUSBAND IN THE WORLD! HE GAVE ME A MINK COAT FOR MY BIRTHDAY!

DOES IT LOOK ANYTHING LIKE THAT WONDERFUL ONE OVER THERE?



IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME! THE BRUTE! AND HE TOLD ME HE HAD IT DESIGNED ESPECIALLY FOR ME!

OH! OH! IT'S THE BOSS'S WIFE!





OH, DEAR! I'M NOT SLIPPOSED TO LET HER KNOW ABOUT THE SURPRISE!





DOLL MAN



THEY SAW A VISION THAT NO WHITE MEN EVER WERE MEANT TO SEE! AND FROM THAT DREADFUL MOMENT, THE BALEFUL EMERALD EYE PURSUED THEM TO VILE AND UNSPEAKABLE DOOM!

DOLL MAN AND DOLL GIRL, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MITE MATCH THEIR WITS AND BRAWN AGAINST AN AGE-OLD LEGEND OF HORROR, WHEN THEY CHALLENGE THE POWER OF...

THE EMERALD EYE OF EVIL!

THROUGH THE DARK INTERIOR OF UNEXPLORED HAITIAN JUNGLE, A GROUP OF SCIENTISTS CAUTIOUSLY APPROACH A FORBIDDEN SCENE...

LISTEN, MARTHA! THE DRUMS ARE BEATING! THAT MEANS THE CEREMONY IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!

OH, DARREL, I'M FRIGHTENED!



STAY CLOSE TO ME! IF ANY OF THESE NATIVES SEE US, WE MAY HAVE TROUBLE GETTING OUT... ALIVE!

D-DO YOU THINK THEY REALLY CAN MAKE ZOMBIES... CREATURES THAT ARE BOTH LIVING AND DEAD?



IT'S NOTHING BUT SUPERSTITIOUS NON-SENSE! BUT THE LEGEND IS SO OLD THAT MOST PEOPLE IN HAITI BELIEVE IN IT! THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE -- TO PROVE THAT THE ZOMBIE STORIES HAVE NO BASIS IN SCIENTIFIC FACT!



SHHH! I CAN SEE THEM NOW! THE WITCH DOCTOR IS STARTING THE CHANT!



THAT POOR FELLOW ON THE ALTAR STONE SEEMS TO BE THE SELECTED VICTIM!

A GROTESQUELY COSTUMED FIGURE WHIRLS IN A FRENZIED DANCE.. AND HOLDS UP A GLEAMING EMERALD STONE..

HAIEEE! LOOK AT THE EYE OF EVIL! LOOK!



NOW LIFE EBBS FROM YOU! DEATH SPEAKS TO YOU FROM THE EMERALD EYE! HAIEEE! DO YOU HEAR HIM?

Y-YES, MASTER!



THEN THE TIME HAS COME! DIE!

EEEEEE!



MARTHA!

WHY DID YOU SCREAM LIKE THAT?

I-I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF! HE---HE WAS GOING TO TEAR OUT THAT POOR FELLOW'S HEART!



WE MIGHT AS WELL RUN FOR IT NOW! THEY'LL BE AFTER US IN ANOTHER SECOND!

RIGHT!



WITHIN MOMENTS THE SOUND OF PURSUIT DRAWS CLOSER ...

OUR SHOTS AREN'T KEEPING THEM BACK, MARTHA! THEY'LL CATCH US BEFORE WE REACH THE RIVER!

I GUESS THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO, DARREL!



DOLL MAN

WE'D BETTER CONCENTRATE OUR WILL POWER!

AND WE'D BETTER DO IT--- FAST!

BY CONCENTRATING THEIR AMAZING WILL POWER, DARREL DANE AND HIS FIANCÉE, MARTHA ROBERTS, CAN CONDENSE THE MOLECULES OF THEIR BODIES AND BECOME THE DYNAMIC DUO.. DOLL MAN AND DOLL GIRL!



SECONDS LATER...

HERE THEY COME, DOLL GIRL!

AND THERE THEY GO!



LITTLE PEOPLE! UNGHH!

BUT WE PACK A BIG PUNCH!



AS MORE PURSUERS APPEAR...

PARDON ME! YOU'RE BLOCKING THE SIDEWALK!

TSK-TSK! SOME PEOPLE HAVE NO MANNERS!



THAT WILL SLOW THEM DOWN FOR A WHILE!

I WISH I COULD SEE THE LOOK OF SURPRISE UNDER THAT WITCH DOCTOR'S MASK!

?



ONCE AGAIN CHANGING TO DARREL DANE AND MARTHA ROBERTS, THEY REJOIN THEIR FELLOW SCIENTISTS ...



DOLL MAN



SO ENDED THE EXPEDITION INTO THE SAVAGE INTERIOR OF HAITI! LATER, ABOARD A STEAMER HEADED BACK FOR THE UNITED STATES, ONE OF THE SCIENTISTS, RONALD CABLE ENTERS HIS STATE-ROOM...



BUT WHEN THE OTHERS ARRIVE ...



YOU'VE BEEN WORRYING TOO MUCH ABOUT THAT WITCH DOCTOR'S WARNING! FORGET IT, RONALD! THERE IS NO EMERALD EYE THAT'S BEEN WATCHING OUR MOVEMENTS!

I--I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT, DARREL! BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT WHAT I SAW DIDN'T EXIST!

RONALD CABLE IS FRIGHTENED, DARREL! ARE YOU SURE HE WAS JUST HAVING AN HALLUCINATION?

I'VE ASKED THE CAPTAIN TO HAVE THE SHIP SEARCHED! IN THE MEANTIME, THERE'S NO USE WORRYING TOO MUCH ABOUT IT!

THE REST OF THE HOMEWARD JOURNEY PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT! THE MEMORY OF THEIR CLOSE BRUSH WITH DEATH SOON BEGAN TO FADE! AND THEN, A FEW NIGHTS LATER IN RONALD CABLE'S HOME...

I COULD SWEAR I HEARD SOMEONE MOVING AROUND OUT HERE! BUT I DON'T SEE ANYTH--



THE EMERALD EYE!... OH, NO! IT CAN'T BE!



GLOWING STRANGELY, THE WEIRDLY FASCINATING GEM HOLDS RONALD CABLE IN A TRANCE-LIKE GRIP! HIS EYES BECOME FIXED AND STARING...

I HEAR YOU, MASTER! I WILL OBEY!



SOON AFTERWARD, IN THE LABORATORY WHERE DARREL DANE AND MARTHA ROBERTS ARE WORKING LATE...

WHAT'S THAT, FRANK?... WHY, YES, OF COURSE! WE'LL BE OVER RIGHT AWAY!



THAT WAS FRANK RENSON--ONE OF THE MEN WHO WENT WITH US ON THE HAITIAN EXPEDITION! HE SOUNDED FRIGHTENED! SAID THAT HE'S SURE HE SAW SOMEONE PROWLING NEAR HIS HOME!

WHY DIDN'T HE CALL THE POLICE?



QUICKLY EXERTING THEIR WILL POWER...

BECAUSE FRANK THOUGHT HE RECOGNIZED THE PROWLER-- AS RONALD CABLE!

GOOD GLORY!



WITH THE AID OF ELMO, THE WONDER DOG, THE DYNAMIC DUO SOON ARRIVES UPON A SCENE .. OF MURDER!



LATER, AS DOLL GIRL AGAIN BECOMES MARTHA ROBERTS AND RETURNS HOME...



THE FASCINATING AURA OF THE DEADLY EMERALD RIVETS MARTHA'S ATTENTION! GRADUALLY, CONSCIOUS THOUGHT FADES ... AND A VOICE SPEAKS IN HER SUB-CONSCIOUS MIND...



SOMETIME LATER, DARREL DANE ANSWERS THE DOORBELL IN HIS APARTMENT...



LISTENING OUTSIDE, A WEIRD FIGURE WAITS...



WITH SPLIT SECOND TIMING, THE DYNAMIC DUO DYNAMITE INTO ACTION...



STAR BRIGHT

BEN FOSTER was at the theatre before the curtain rang down on the evening performance. "I've been trying to get tickets to see this musical for weeks," he said to Mory Burns, "but I never figured on seeing it on homicide detail from the wings." Mory just shook his head and sighed as he looked at the dead man. "Being stage manager of this shindig is enough headaches, without having a thug kill himself backstage. Wait'll the newspapers get ahold of this. It'll be murder." "It is murder, Mory," replied Ben. Mory looked surprised. "But it's suicide. He was holding the gun himself and he's shot through the head. What makes you say murder?" he asked incredulously. Ben replied slowly, "We know the body's been moved since death and I can't understand that bad bruise on the side of the gun hand. It just doesn't add up as suicide." Mory threw up his hands. "Okay, you're the cop. Shall I line up the cast for questioning?" Ben nodded.

Ben had finished talking to everybody and was headed towards the door when he spotted a pretty girl hovering in the shadows. He walked over to her just as Mory Burns came hurrying up. "What's your name, Miss? I don't think I questioned you," said Ben. She started to stammer a reply when Mory cut in. "Oh, this is Gilda Starr, Ben. She said she didn't feel well earlier tonight, so I told her she could leave and see you homicide guys later. She's our lead dancer. This little gal's gonna be a star before long." "I'm sorry you don't feel well, Miss Starr," said Ben, "but I'll have to question you tonight. We can't wait on murder. If you'll stand by for a moment, I have to call headquarters. Can I use your phone, Mory?" he asked. "Okay, Ben," replied Mory, "we'll wait for you here."

When he came out of the office he found Mory waiting alone. "What happened to the redhead," asked Ben anxiously. "Don't get excited," replied Mory. "I told her she could go upstairs to rest. Come on, I'll take you up to her dressing room. By the way," he added with a wink, "you sure you're keeping your mind on business? Gilda's quite a dish, ya know." "I'm well aware of that," replied Ben with a laugh. "This gal's really a dancer," continued Mory as they wound up the iron staircase. "She's got a high kick that's as fast, sure, and powerful as any I've ever seen. You oughta see her in the show. She kicks like a flash of lightning. Well, here we are." He knocked on the door.

Gilda opened the door for them. It was obvious that she was upset. "Take it easy, Gilda," soothed Mory. "Ben's just gonna ask a few questions." Ben's questions were routine and he got the same answers he'd gotten from the rest of the cast. Nobody knew the thug (Ben knew him as Mug Ganti, a local hood with a long record). Nobody had seen him enter the theatre, etc. etc. "Anyway, where in the world would I meet a man like that?" asked Gilda. "For years I've done nothing but practice my dancing. Dancing's my life, Mr. Foster."

"I know that, Miss Starr. Mory's been filling me in on that famous high kick of yours." He got up and rambled around the dressing room. "I understand you share this with two other girls," he said. Gilda nodded a silent reply. "And do you do your own laundry," he continued. He was looking at a toe slipper, hanging by its tie near the open window. Its solid toe clunking against the window frame. Mory cut in to reply, "Of course not, we have a wardrobe mistress and . . ." "Well . . . I g-got a little grease on that slipper and I tried to get it out by myself," interrupted Gilda. Ben had taken the slipper down and was examining it carefully. This doesn't look like grease to me, Miss Starr. It's a blood spot, and a pretty big one, too." Wild-eyed, Gilda leapt to her feet and dashed for the door, but Ben was there before her. "Okay, okay. Take it easy. Do you want to tell me about it here, or shall we go down to headquarters?" he asked.

She broke down and poured out the whole story. "I was in reform school when I was very young," she started. "After I got out, I took a job as a waitress to help finance my dancing lessons. I met Mug Ganti while I was working at the restaurant. Somehow he found out about my year in reform school, but he didn't mention it until I started to get ahead." Gilda paused, she had started to cry. "I rose quickly after my first chorus job, and I was sitting on top of the world with this show when he showed up to threaten me with exposure. I paid him off several times but tonight had to be the end. I just couldn't keep it up. I arrived very early. The doorman was out to dinner and he didn't see me enter. I got into my costume to avoid the rush when the other girls arrived, and then I came downstairs to limber up." "Yeah, she always comes early to practice before curtain," cut in a sad looking Mory. Gilda looked at him gratefully. "When I came down the stairs," she continued, "Mug Ganti slipped out of the shadows to meet me. He demanded more money. I was frightened, but I refused to pay. It was then that he drew the gun. He was in an ugly mood, and when he came at me with that gun, his knuckles white as he clutched it. I didn't know what to do. I just kicked, as hard as I could. I hit his gun hand, it flew up and the gun went off as it pointed at his head. He fell forward and I caught him, but not before the b-blood fell on my slipper. I was able to drag him away, to the back of the stage." She collapsed in tears. "That explains the bruise on the gun hand," muttered Ben.

Mory shook his head as Ben led the redheaded dancer out the door. "It's a shame, a beautiful career loused up." Ben patted him on the back. "Cheer up, Mory. I'll call you as soon as I have the straight dope." Ben was glad when he was able to call. "She'll be in the show tomorrow night, Mory. It's justifiable manslaughter. She's going out on bail now and the newspaper boys tell me they're writing it up sympathetically. So little Gilda Starr will shine as brightly as ever."

DOLL MAN

CAN STATUES LIVE AND WALK.... AND MURDER?
DOLL MAN AND DOLL GIRL, MIGHTY MITES OF JUSTICE, KNEW IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE! BUT THEY HAD TO BELIEVE THEIR OWN EYES, AND THERE WAS NO OTHER EXPLANATION FOR THE EERIE DISAPPEARANCE OF JOHN CAVEN NO EXPLANATION SAVE THAT HE WAS IN THE GRASP OF SATAN'S SCULPTOR!



IN THE MUSEUM OF MODERN SCULPTORS.

LOOK, JOHN, WE'VE BEEN FRIENDS A LONG TIME! WOULD YOU MIND ANSWERING A SIMPLE QUESTION?

GO AHEAD AND ASK, DARREL!



WHY IN THE WORLD DID YOU BRING US TO THIS PLACE? SOME OF THESE SO-CALLED WORKS OF ART ARE ENOUGH TO TURN MY STOMACH!

PHINEAS MARR IS AN UNUSUAL ARTIST, DARREL, IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE!



NONE OF HIS STUFF IS VERY..UH.. POPULAR IN THIS COUNTRY! BUT HE IS WELL LIKED ABROAD! THEY CALL HIM "SATAN'S SCULPTOR"!

I CAN SEE WHAT THEY MEAN!



I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF PHINEAS MARR'S GROTESQUERIES TO LAST ME A LIFETIME! WHEN CAN WE LEAVE?

IN A FEW MINUTES, DARREL! I'VE .. ER.. GOT TO TALK TO SOME PEOPLE! I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!



WHEN JOHN CAVEN LEAVES..

I DON'T BELIEVE JOHN CAME HERE TO LOOK AT SCULPTURE, DO YOU, DARREL?

NO, MARTHA! JOHN CAVEN'S AN ACE INVESTIGATOR FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT! HE'S PROBABLY ON THE TRAIL OF SOMETHING!



LONG MINUTES LATER..

DARREL! SOMETHING'S WRONG!



I SAW TWO MEN CARRYING JOHN CAVEN BETWEEN THEM! HE'S EITHER UNCONSCIOUS .. OR DEAD!

WHAT? BETTER CHANGE FOR ACTION, MARTHA!



USING THEIR REMARKABLE WILL POWER TO CONDENSE THE MOLECULES OF THEIR BODIES DARREL DANE AND MARTHA ROBERTS BECOME THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MITES .. DOLL MAN AND DOLL GIRL..

HURRY!



THERE THEY ARE!

DON'T BOTHER CLOSING THE DOOR, GENTLEMEN!



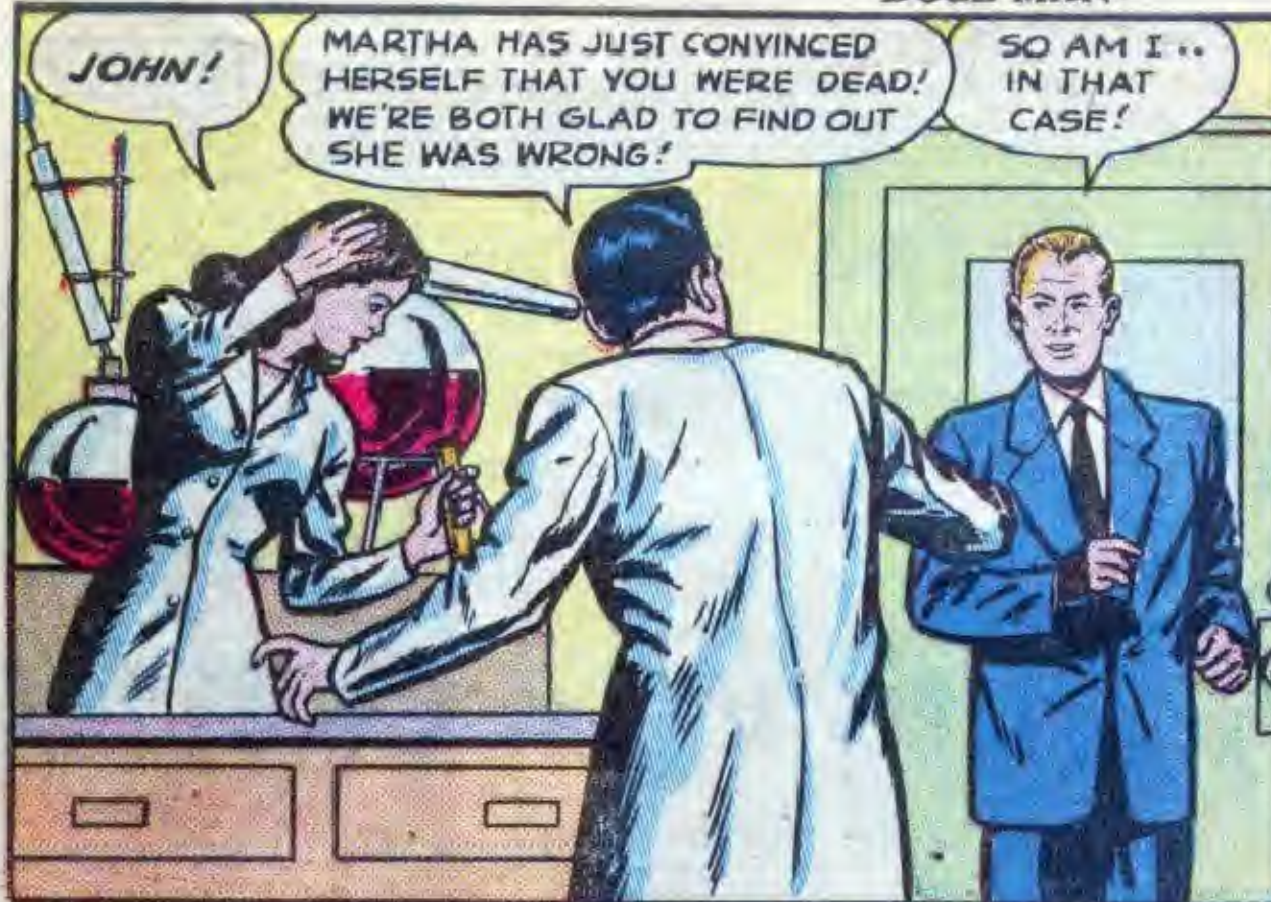


AFTER A CAREFUL SEARCH OF THE WORKROOM..



LATER, AS DARREL DANE AND MARTHA ROBERTS RETURN TO THEIR LABORATORY ...





JOHN!

MARTHA HAS JUST CONVINCED HERSELF THAT YOU WERE DEAD! WE'RE BOTH GLAD TO FIND OUT SHE WAS WRONG!

SO AM I.. IN THAT CASE!

BUT WHEN MARTHA ROBERTS IS ALONE..

DESPITE THE EVIDENCE, I'M POSITIVE THERE'S DIRTY WORK AFOOT.. AND PHINEAS MARR IS BEHIND IT! HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO SOME INVESTIGATING WITH ME, ELMO?



ARF!

A QUICK EFFORT OF WILL, AND..

WE'LL TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AROUND THAT MUSEUM!



AND THIS TIME I WON'T EVEN TELL DARREL DANE ABOUT IT! HE'D JUST LAUGH AT ME, IF I'M WRONG AGAIN! HE HASN'T ANY FAITH IN WOMAN'S INTUITION!



SHORTLY AFTER THE DOLL GIRL DEPARTS..

I HAD A GOOD CHANCE TO LOOK AROUND WHEN I WAS HERE BEFORE! I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE THEY KEEP THE NOTES ON THEIR LATEST EXPERIMENT!



AH, HERE IT IS! BLUEPRINTS FOR A NEW SUPER-SPEED, JET PROPULSION ENGINE! DARREL DANE AND MARTHA ROBERTS ARE BRILLIANT SCIENTISTS!



DARREL!

YOU DIDN'T FOOL ME FOR A MINUTE! YOU'RE NOT JOHN CAVEN!



CLICK



A HURRIED PHONE CALL TO THE POLICE, AND D'NEEL DANE ONCE MORE BECOMES THE MIGHTY DOLL MAN..





A TAP WITH THE Mallet WILL QUIET HIM TOO

AHRFF!



YOU DIDN'T KNOW HOW CLOSE YOU CAME TO FINDING JOHN CAVEN ON YOUR LAST VISIT HERE! HIS BODY WAS ALREADY IMMERSSED IN THIS TROUGH OF LIQUID PLASTER! JUST AS YOURS SOON WILL BE!



JOHN CAVEN HAD TO BE KILLED! HE WAS TOO CLOSE TO OUR SECRET! HE'S ALREADY DISCOVERED THAT MY SCULPTURES WERE BEING USED TO SMUGGLE VALUABLE SCIENTIFIC AND DIPLOMATIC SECRETS ABROAD!

WE FOUND OUT THAT HE MADE INQUIRIES AS TO WHY MY WORK WAS NEVER SOLD HERE IN THIS COUNTRY, BUT ALWAYS SHIPPED OVERSEAS! THAT'S WHEN I DECIDED TO DISPOSE OF HIM, AND PUT A DOUBLE IN HIS PLACE!



THAT'S WHO THE MAN WAS WHO RETURNED TO OUR LABORATORY!



NOW YOU KNOW EVERYTHING! HA-HA! BUT I DOUBT THAT YOU'LL EVER TELL!

ABRUPTLY...



YOU TALK TOO MUCH, PHINEAS!

THE DOLL MAN!



FROM NOW ON I'LL DO THE TALKING ... WITH MY FISTS!

UGGG!





Uncle Bernie's FUN SHOP

ORDER NOW at our Low Low PRICES!

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HE'S OVER 19" TALL!
MOVES HIS MOUTH,
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REAL COWBOY OUTFIT!

Hey kids—here's your chance to become a master ventriloquist—in a jiffy! Imagine—you can make HAPPY the COWBOY actually talk! (In your own voice, of course.) Pull the string in the back of his head—watch his lips move—hear your own words coming right out of HAPPY'S mouth! See how real he looks—rigged up in a cowboy hat, washable plaid shirt and western pants... Show off your skill at parties—at school! SEND NO MONEY. (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

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with Screen!

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JINGLE BELLS
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JACK AND JILL
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TOM THUMB
ROBINSON CRUSOE
HOUSE THAT JACK BUILT
WINKIN WILLIE

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Gun moves and Bangs,
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Fascinate the youngsters with hours of fun and action. Imagine—every car WORKS in the line of duty! 1 car with working windshield wiper, 2 cars with windows that open and close, 1 police car with gun that bangs and recoils, 1 ambulance with ringing and swaying bell, 2 taxis with meters that register fare, 1 fire chief car with bell that rings and sways. All 8 cars made of durable steel... rubber wheels cannot come out... bottoms completely enclosed... all new Two-tone and metallic finish... all differently colored. SEND NO MONEY. (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

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This is just part of the equipment my students build. You keep all parts I send.

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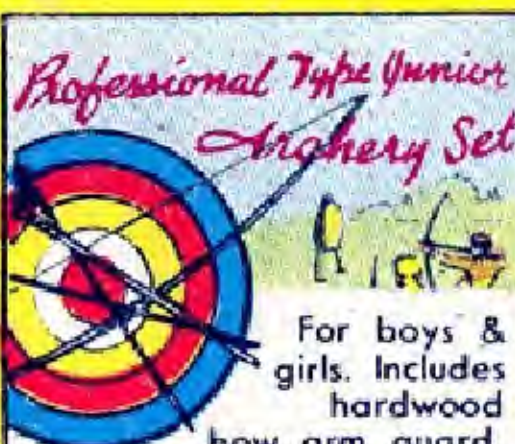
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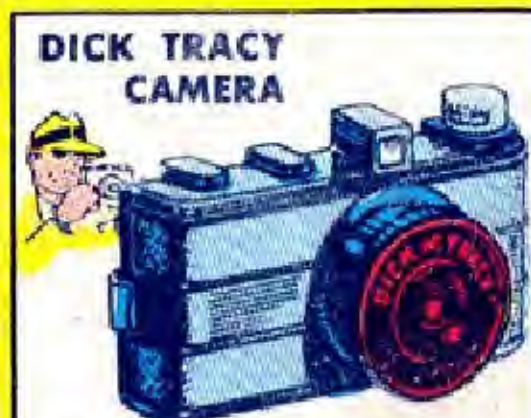
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